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Touk T'ongsin.

FAILURE OF THE NORTH KOREAN SEPTEMBER 1949 UNIFICATION PLAN

The Democratic Front for Unification of the Fatherland was organized in three stages: first, the North-South Political Leaders Convention walk held in P'yongyang under the pretension that it represented the whole people. The convention adopted the "Constitution of the Feople's Republic." Second, the Convention of the South Horean Delegates was held in Heeju. Third, the Supreme People's Council was established and headed by Kim Il-song. Thus, in July 1949, the so-called Democratic Front for Unification of the Fatherland was announced, stating that the People's Republic of Korea would be formed on 21 September 1949, uniting North and South Korea and making Seoul its capital.

While the UNCOK exerted its efforts for establishment of a unified Republic of Korea, the People's Republic attempted to undermine the activities of the UNCOK, claiming that the government of the People's Republic stood for the Democratic Front and the unified country under the Democratic Front. The government asserted that the Democratic Front represented all of the political and social organizations led by the North and South Korean Labor Parties. It was announced that a national election would be held on 21 September 1949.

Since the city of Seoul was designated as the seat of the capital in the Constitution of the People's Republic, the government had to say something about the definite plan in the connection. Thus, while deceiving the people by saying that the government and the Democratic Front stood for a peaceful unification of Korea, the government announced that its army was ready to cross the 38th Parallel at any time and occupy Seoul, and that it would do so in August or September 1949. Meanwhile, it was planned to wage guerrilla warfare at Chii-san and other areas, with the intention of enlarging local disturbances into a nation-wide war. Partisans in South Korea were instructed to break open the prisons.

In organizing the Democratic Front the leaders of the People's Republic closely followed Lenin's four principles of revolution. The leaders wanted to have the Democratic Front represent all of the four elements for a successful revolution in South Korea: (1) hostile feeling towards the government against which revolution is planned; (2) disintegration of that government; (3) unity of laborers; and (4) absolute loyalty.

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The September unification movement was a part of the world-wide movement in September 1949 under Moscow direction. In Italy, a general strike ment in September 1949 under Moscow direction. In Italy, a general strike was ordered; in China, the Red Army was helped to move against the Nationalist Government; in Japan a great strike was scheduled. Amidst all these disturbances, the Soviet delegates to the UN were to speak loudly under the definite plan to block all favorable decisions of the UN General Assembly towards South Korea.

The plan did not work. The Taehan Republic gained the strength to surmount all the underground activities of the Communist partisans, while the South Korcan people understood fully that the unification under the Communist-sponsored Democratic Front would be the end of freedom.

The leaders of the People's Republic hoped that the government of the Taehan Republic could be overthrown by guerrilla activities alone by 20 August 1949. Accordingly, it was announced that Pak Hon-yong, Vice Premier of the People's Republic and head of the South Korean Labor Party, would visit Sec. 1 on 1 September as Chairman of the Committee for the September General Election. This would be the second liberation, following the first liberation by guerril-

Yet nothing happened on 21 September. Neither the first nor the second liberation occurred. There was no explanation on the failure. The puppet leaders kept silent, and did not attempt to make any excuses for the failure. One thing was clear, however: the Democratic Front never got the support of the Korean people despite the desperate propagands efforts by the North Korean leaders.

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